

MINUTES

GOVERNOR'S FOREST HEALTH OVERSIGHT COUNCIL

Thursday, February 12, 2004 at 9:30 a.m.

Members Present: Representative Tom O'Halleran, Diane Vosick, Kirk Rowdabaugh, Rob Smith, Todd Schulke, Steve Campbell, Lori Faeth, Hon. Joe Donaldson, Amy Rex, Alexious Becenti Sr. , Marty Moore

Members Absent: Richard Collison, Dallas Massey Sr., Ron Christensen, Don Foster, Beth Zimmerman, Darrell Willis, Mike Sommerville, Robert Moffett

1) Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Co-Chair Vosick at 9:40 A.M.

Introduction of Council Members

2) Approval of minutes of the 1.08.04 meeting

Motion to approve the minutes by Mayor Donaldson, seconded by Mr. Becenti, motion passed unanimously by Council.

3) Subcommittee Reports

a. Reports

i. Utilization & Commerce – Marty Moore

Economic and Utilization Guiding Principle Development

Meeting scheduled for February 17, 2004 @ the County Supervisors

Association. Lunch will be provided for those individuals who RSVP.

Dr. Moore relayed to the board that \$100,000 has been received from the

U.S. Forest Service, which will be used for data coordination. Mr.

Rowdabaugh questioned what should be included in the work plan for the Eastern Counties Organization.

ii. Zoning & Implementation – Mayor Joe Donaldson

Mayor Donaldson explained to the council that the Subcommittee is pending a charge and therefore has no report at this time.

He shared his experience during the Governor 's visit to Flagstaff for the introduction of the Forest Health initiatives which was successful

iii. Legislation – Mike Sommerville

Lori Faeth – *Draft House Bill 2693 "Forest Health and Safety"* (Sponsored by Rep. O'Halleran), has been introduced and is currently being revised.

The bill assists in the implementation of Legislative recommendations, which gives authority to various agencies to adopt and administer enforcement of the Forest Health initiatives. The revisions include but are not limited to: recognizing the State Forester as a Gubernatorial appointment and proposes an increase in membership for the Fire Safety Committee. Please remember that this document is a work in progress. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Ms. Faeth.

Motion to approve amendments by Mr. Rowdabaugh, motion seconded by Mr. Schulke, motion passed unanimously by the Council. Motion to approve the

document (post changes) by Mr. Schulke, motion seconded by Mr. Becenti, motion passed unanimously by the Council.

Co-Chair Vosick encouraged council members to build public support within their respective communities to ensure greater support of the bill. It is anticipated that members of the public will be opposed to changes and recommendations contained within the bill. Rep. O'Halleran requested both the Council and members of the public to forward any suggestions or recommendations on how the bill should be drafted, as well as, what should be included.

iv. Education –

Michael Neal

Rob Smith, Kirk Rowdabaugh, Steve Campbell, Beth Zimmerman, Deb Young, ? and Mark Fallon (get complete list from MN)

Grants have been identified to assist their efforts to development methods to inform the public.

- Arizona Firewise has a consistent message “if we all contribute then we can all be Firewise compliant”.
- Preliminary draft brochures have been proposed, “Protect your homes from wildfire”. Future revisions include changing graphics to reflect Arizona forests.
- A request was made to have the Governor to make a proclamation that March 22-26 as “Firewise Week”.
- Fliers featuring details of Firewise week will be mailed to the public in addition to a various postings (featuring links to Firewise and related agencies) on the Forest Health website.
- Talking points, messages to relay during media events.
- Development of PSA, April 1st- May 15th – In anticipation of another bad fire season, “Things we need to do to prevent”. This would include testimonials of those who followed prevention measures and were successful. (contact information of individuals available to the media?)
- Request for designated Forest Health Media Representative – Suggestions: Jim Paxton (KPNX) or Mark Curtis (KPNX).
- Billboards/radio announcements
- Presentations for fire departments to use for community outreach

A question was raised whether utility corporations will be donating resources for this campaign. A commitment is pending the development of materials (brochures, fliers, etc.,). An increase in support and participation is anticipated at the completion of those documents. The subcommittee projects these methods will reach 1 million homeowners.

Thanks to APS for their effort and support!

To bring more attention to Northern Arizona, Corey Cox has completed a PPT for select members of each community to present to the public (any suggestions to provide awareness and publicity is encouraged). The PPT will be available for review when the recommendations have been revised. Key communities include: Show Low, Payson, Flagstaff, Prescott. Contact person: Heather Garbarino.

b. Cross-council updates / information sharing (Staff)

FYI – Friday, February 13, 2004 Mapping Assessment Workshop

4) A Proposal for Collaborative Forest Restoration in the White Mountains

a. Bill Ulfelder, The Nature Conservancy

Presentation “A proposal for Collaborative Forest Restoration and Adaptive Management in the White Mountains of Arizona” (Handouts available)

Note: PPT will be posted to the Forest Health Council Website

5) Community Wildland Fire Hazard Protection Plans

a. Richard VanDemark, Southwest Forestry, Inc.

Healthy Forest Restoration Act - encourages the development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP).

1. At-risk community is defined at the local level

2. Developed in a collaborative environment with guidance: Wildland Fire Leadership Council (WFLC) and National Association of State Foresters (NASF)

3. Identifies and prioritizes areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments on federal and non federal land

4. Recommends measures to reduce structural ignitability throughout the at risk community

These plans are meant to present on the ground activities currently underway and planned in the near future, they will facilitate funding of fuel reduction activities, and may be developed in partnership with the local Federal agency by the local community group (such as Prescott, Payson and Flagstaff).

Meetings have been held to insure that federal resources will be directed to areas that have such plans implemented. Half of those resources must be spent on the interface defined by each communities fire protection plan.

How do these plans relate to existing plans? The intention is to use them in conjunction with existing measures down to local community to decide how such plans will be utilized.

There is no opportunity for a grandfather clause.

Should make the planning requirements minimal but provide the opportunities for communities to do more. Some already have the materials in place to do so others do not. The law is not specific as to who would review the law. It is up to the community with a collaborative effort with the government agencies to identify that person.

6) IOF – Forestry Action Plan

a. Herb Hopper, Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D

Presentation- “Four Corners Sustainable Forests Partnerships”

In response to an inquiry from the AZ Department of Commerce, they have developed the “Industries of the Future” (natural resource stewardship).

- **Workshops to stimulate capacity building/sustainable design. Encouraging members of the public to participate in workshops throughout the country and offer “travel scholarships”.**
- **Utilization of liquid foam to create a log of R45 value**
- **“Revolving loan fund” (available for non-profits) –designated for equipment and marketing**
- **Evaluations are available that show the number of successes**

Ms. Faeth suggested future guiding principles for sustainable design should be included.

7) National Forests in Arizona Forest Fuels Management Program for FY 04/05

a. Summary of the projects in data form and on maps

b. Karl Siderits

Handout “Forest Fuels, fire Management and Wildland Urban Interface”

Summary - What is going on in our six national forests (within Arizona) and what is the future?

Urban interface is a lot of contract work, which is why were trying to get industry established. We intend to complete this project by 2010. However, we need to develop the market.

The Treasure gains the funds from the lumber sales.

There is success of the program is questionable due to the lack of industry to deal with small biomass.

8) Future meeting dates and locations

a. March 11th Phoenix @ County Supervisor's Association

b. April 8th Phoenix @ County Supervisor's Association

c. May 13th to be determined...

9) Next steps / assignments / workshops

c. **February 9-12th** USDA Forest Health Monitoring Workshop in Sedona

d. **February 13th** Mapping & Assessment Workshop in Phoenix

e. **March 19, 2004** Governor's Forest Health Conference in Prescott

Workshop for Homeowners the following day, interest in establishing times for additional workshops

Breakouts, recommendations for what we need to consider next year

10) Call to the Public

none

11) Adjourn

Mr. Rowdabaugh made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dr. Moore seconded. Motion passed unanimously by the Council. Meeting Adjourned at 11:45 am.

CO-CHAIRS

Representative O'Halleran – Arizona House of Representatives

Diane Vosick – Ecological Restoration Institute

<http://www.governor.state.az.us/FHC/>